4

6

7

8

9

- Claim 3 (amended). The method according to <u>claim 1 or 2</u> [any one of the preceding
- 2 claims] wherein:
- 3 said network is an Internet Protocol network;
- 4 said documents are hyper text markup language (HTML) documents; and,
- said one or plurality of server systems are Web servers;
 - Claim 4 (amended). The method according to <u>claim 1 or 2</u> [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the geographic coordinates of the geographic location described or referenced in the document are:
 - bi-dimensional and [preferably] expressed in term of longitude and latitude; or
 - three-dimensional and [preferably] expressed in term of longitude, [longitude] <u>latitude</u> and altitude.
 - Claim 5 (amended). The method according to <u>claim 1 or 2</u> [any one of the preceding claims] wherein said step of encoding geographic coordinates of the location described or referenced in the document in a geographic address (gURL) comprises the further step of:
- computing absolute geographic coordinates (X,Y) of said location wherein:
 - the absolute longitude X is the length [in meters] of the arc of the terrestrial parallel that goes from the Greenwich meridian to said location in <u>a</u> clockwise direction; and

11	from the North Pole to said location.
12	including said absolute geographic coordinates (X,Y) in said geographic address
13	(gURL).
\mathcal{B}_{l}	Claim 6 (amended). A server system comprising means adapted for carrying out the
2	method according to claim 1 or 2 [any one of the preceding claims].
1 2	Claim 7 (amended). A computer readable medium comprising instructions adapted for carrying out the method according to <u>claim 1 or 2</u> [any one of preceding claims 1 to 5].
	Claim 11 (amended). The method according to claim 8 or 9 [any one of claims 8 to 11]
2	wherein the geographic coordinates of the geographic location descried or referenced
	in the document are:
2 U \	bi-dimensional and [preferably] expressed in terms of longitude and latitude; or,
150	three-dimensional and [preferably] expressed in terms of longitude, [longitude] latitude
	and altitude.
1	Claim 12 (amended). The document according to claim 8 or 9 [any one of claims 8 to
2	10] wherein said encoded geographic coordinates of the geographic location include[s]:
3	absolute geographic coordinates (X,Y) of said location wherein:
4 .	the absolute longitude X is the length [in meters] of the arc of the terrestrial
5	parallel that goes from the Greenwich meridian to said location in a clockwise

the absolute latitude Y is the length [in meters] of the arc of terrestrial meridian

6

direction; and,

10

	the absolute latitude Y is the length [in meters] of the arc of terrestrial meridian
8	from the North Pole to said location.
1	Claim 13 (amended). A method in a client system for searching documents according
2	to <u>claim 8 or 9</u> [claims 8 to 12] in a network comprising one or a plurality of server
3	systems, said method comprising the steps of:
4	specifying a reference point;
5	determining geographic coordinates of said reference point;
5	encoding said geographic coordinates in a geographic address (gURL);
	searching on the one or plurality of server systems for documents tagged with said
18	geographic address (gURL).
1 ,2	Claim 15 (amended). The method according to [any one of claims] <u>claim</u> 13 [to 14] comprising the further steps of:
	comprising the further steps of:
4	comprising the further steps of: specifying a geographic area around the reference point;
	comprising the further steps of: specifying a geographic area around the reference point; determining geographic coordinates of said geographic area;

FR9-99-030

8
9
10000000000000000000000000000000000000

5

6 7

- 3 address (gURL) comprises the further steps of:
- 4 computing absolute geographic coordinates (X_r, Y_r) of said reference point wherein:

the absolute longitude X_r is the length [in meters] of the arc of the terrestrial parallel that goes from th Greenwich meridian to said reference point in \underline{a} clockwise direction; and,

the absolute latitude Y_r is the length [in meters] of the arc of the terrestrial meridian from the North Pole to said reference point; [.]

including said absolute geographic coordinates (X_r, Y_r) in said geographic address (gURL).

Claim 17 (amended). The method according to [any one of claims] <u>claim</u> 13 [to 16] wherein said step of encoding geographic coordinates of a geographic area around a reference point in a fuzzy geographic address comprises the further steps of:

computing fuzzy geographic coordinates $[(X^*,Y^*)]$ by replacing a wild card character <u>for</u> one or several of the less significant digits of the absolute geographic coordinates (X_r, Y_r) of the reference point, the number of replaced digits depending on the specified geographic area, said wild card character being interpreted as "any trailing string" ;and.[.]

- 9 including said fuzzy geographic coordinates [(X*,Y*)] in said fuzzy geographic address.
- Claim 18 (amended). The method according to [any one of claims] claim 13 [to 17]
- 2 herein said step of specifying a reference point comprises the step of:
- 3 selecting the reference point on a digital map by means of any pointing device; or

FR9-99-030

- specifying the reference point once for all; or 4 measuring the actual position of the client system and suing said actual position as the 5 reference point. 6 Claim 19 (amended). A system, in particular a client system, for carrying out the 1 method according to [any one of claims] claim 13 [to 18]. 2 Claim 20 (amended). A computer readable medium comprising instructions adapted for carrying out the method according to [an one of claims] claim 13 [to 18]. 2 Claim 21 (amended). A method in a client system for displaying geographic information comprised in documents according to claims 8 or 9 [to 12], said method comprising, for each document, the steps of: retrieving the absolute geographic coordinates from the geographic address tagged on the documents; and, mapping the geographic location according to said absolute geographic coordinates. <u>=</u>| Claim 23 (amended). The method according to [any one of claims] claim 21 [to 22] 2 wherein said step of mapping geographic locations comprises the further step of: defining a scale according to: the absolute geographic coordinates of documents; and/or
 - Claim 24 (amended). The method according to [an one of claims] <u>claim</u> 21 [to 23]

some reference geographic coordinates and scales.

5

wherein the step of mapping a geographic location comprises the step of: 2 displaying a sensible icon [, optionally used in association with one or a plurality of 3 4 geographic attributes,] for: pointing to the absolute geographic coordinates of the geographic location; and, 5 pointing to the network address of the document. 6 Claim 25 (amended). The method according to claim[s] 21 [to 24] comprising the 1 2 further step of: mapping the reference point. Claim 26 (amended). The method according to claim[s] 21 [to 25] comprising the further steps of: pointing to an icon by means of any pointing device; and **4** accessing the document by means of the network address associated with said icon. Claim 27 (amended). The method according to [any one of the claims] claim 21 [to 26] 1 2 comprising the further steps of: 3 pointing to an icon by means of any pointing device; and retrieving a minimum information related to the geographic location associated with said 4 icon, said minimum information comprising in particular: 5 6 a title or name of the geographic location;

---8---

FR9-99-030

7	a short description of said geographic location;
8	geographic coordinates of said geographic location;
9	distance from the reference point to said geographic location[;].
1 2	Claim 28 (amended). The method according to claim 24 [any one of claims to 27] wherein said step of mapping geographic locations comprises the further step of:
3	displaying said icons on a geographic map with the same scale and reference point that <u>is</u> used to map said sensible icons.
	Claim 29 (amended). The method according to [any one of claims] <u>claim</u> 21 [to 28] wherein said step of mapping geographic locations comprises the further step of:
	retrieving a geographic map from one or a plurality of server systems; or
	storing a geographic map in the client system once for all.
	Claim 30 (amended). A system, in particular a client system, for carrying out the method according to [any one of claims] <u>claim</u> 21 [to 29].
1 2	Claim 31 (amended). A computer readable medium comprising instructions adapted for carrying out the method according to [any one of claims] <u>claim</u> 21 [to 29].
	In the Abstract:
07	Line 11, after the ")" please insert by tagging each document with cartographic coordinates